

REMARKS

Applicant, by the amendments presented above and the arguments presented below, has made a concerted effort to place this case in condition for allowance. Claims 27-31, 37, 40 and 41 are currently pending. Claims 18, 20-26, 38 and 39 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that claims 27-31, 37, 40 and 41 were allowed.

Cancelled Subject Matter

Applicant has cancelled claims 18, 20-26, 38 and 39 herein as required by the Examiner in the Office Action. The Examiner stated that claims 18, 20-26, 38 and 39 were directed to a non-elected, patentably distinct species of the invention. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter of cancelled claims 18, 20-26, 38 and 39.

Specification and Drawings

In the Amendment filed November 30, 2004, Applicant made amendments to the specification and the drawings. The Office Action dated February 25, 2005 makes no reference as to whether the amendments to the specification and the drawings have been accepted. Therefore, barring any contrary comments from the Examiner, Applicant will assume that these amendments to the specification and the drawings have been accepted.

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant advises the Examiner that Applicant has today filed on-line, through the United States Patent and Trademark Office's website, a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement which discloses six new references. The Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was filed under 37 CFR 1.97(d) as Applicant first became aware of these references in connection with a Notice of Allowance which issued in connection with United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/340,121, which is commonly owned with the present application.


In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact one of the undersigned attorneys at (312) 704-1890.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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By: _____


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